



Site Stakeholder Group

Hunterston B Station Director's Report

Period: February to April 2020

1. Covid-19 update

Maintaining the safety of the site while protecting the health and well-being of the people who work at Hunterston B is our over-riding priority during the Covid-19 outbreak.

We have put a number of processes in place to support this. This includes limiting the number of people on site, encouraging social distancing during the working day and changing shift patterns to minimise contact between workers.

We have installed a thermographic camera and anyone coming to site now needs to successfully pass its temperature scanning before being admitted.

We remain in regular contact with our colleagues at the ONR and in Government to ensure they are up to date with our current actions.



2. Graphite update

The Hunterston B Reactor 3 safety case has been submitted to the ONR and is now going through its assessment process. Work continues on the Reactor 4 safety case.

On 19 May, in line with European market rules, we updated our expected return to service dates for both reactors at Hunterston B. The published date for Reactor 3 is 13 July and for Reactor 4 is 27 July.

While they have been offline inspections have been carried out on the graphite of both reactors with the results being in line with expectations.

We will continue to keep the SSG, and the wider community, up to date on the progress of the safety cases. All updates are also posted on the graphite section of the EDF Energy website: <https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/graphite-core>

3. Defuelling and decommissioning

EDF is to submit scoping requests to North Ayrshire Council's planning unit ahead of planning applications for waste facilities at Hunterston B to support future decommissioning activities.

EDF is operating Hunterston B with decommissioning in mind and preparations are underway to ensure a smooth transition into defuelling when the station reaches that stage. As part of these preparations, advance information in the form of scoping requests are being lodged with North Ayrshire Council. These are concerned with the future planning applications for facilities for disposal and safe storage of waste from the power station.

The applications seeking to build a new intermediate level waste (ILW) store and two waste processing facilities on the B site will be submitted by early 2021, following a period of consultation with a range of stakeholders, including the local community, later in the year.

It is important to be clear that a final decision has still to be taken on the best route for storage of ILW from Hunterston B and EDF is still looking at a range of options. A feasibility study is being carried out on shared use of the Hunterston A ILW store, however, the planning regime requires consent submissions to be made well in advance. To ensure the site can move into defuelling with no unnecessary downtime, applications are being lodged now. Doing it this way will ultimately provide the best value to the UK taxpayer. As we consider the range of options for the site we will carry out a programme of consultation.

4. Safety and Environment

Station Industrial Safety Performance

Safety performance during the reporting period has been good with the Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) now at 0.00. This is a continuation of the positive improvement in safety performance.

The station have been proactive in dealing with COVID-19. A Pandemic Working Group is established on site supporting the fleet arrangements and up to date information and guidance from the authorities and ensure the safety and wellbeing of our staff and their families. Some of the actions taken are outlined at the start of this report.

We continue to hold monthly safety meetings for all teams. These have been carried out via Skype or onsite with social distancing in place. Topics have included light eye protection, hand safety and Covid-19 to ensure we maintain safe working arrangements to support our safety performance.

Our working groups also continue to make industrial safety improvements across the station. These include groups on working at height, asbestos, lifting operations lifting equipment regulations (LOLER) and a work equipment oversight committee (WEOC).

Radiological Protection

The radiation dose of each worker is assessed individually by an electronic personal dose meter. A computer database keeps records for each worker. Exposure is constantly monitored and ultimately compared with the levels specified in the Ionising Radiation Regulations (2017) which are the UK Health and Safety legislation that applies to work with radiation.

During the reporting period the Collective Radiation Exposure (CRE) was below plan (see table below). Collective doses are pre-planned on expected work for each year based on scheduled maintenance, outages and routine operations. A breakdown of dose received is shown below (along with a comparison of relevant dose statistics).

All work is fully reviewed and justified in order to ensure all doses received were ALARP (As Low As Reasonably Practicable). This involves justifying and optimising the dose, as well as remaining within those dose limits.

Differences between the actual and planned dose can be down to a range of factors including changes to the work programme, development of new techniques for carrying out work that will result in a lower dose and the deployment of new equipment.

There was one reportable radiological protection event during this reporting period. Equipment used for the testing in the iodine absorption plant was returned to its owner using an approved

carrier. The package was monitored before dispatch and found to be below the contact dose rate limit for this type of package of 0.005 mSv per hour. On arrival the dose-rate was found to be above the limit at 0.010 mSv per hour. This rate is the equivalent to eating a bag of Brazil nuts or spending a few hours in Cornwall. Our testing equipment has been checked and found to be accurate. An investigation has been completed and actions are in hand to prevent recurrence.

Radiation Dose to workers (February 2020 to April 2020)		
Planned collective dose	11.9 man.mSv	
Actual collective dose	6.4 man.mSv	
	Employee	Contract Partner
Total Dose	4.3 man.mSv	2.1 man.mSv
Average individual dose	0.01 mSv	0.01 mSv
Highest individual dose	0.23 mSv	0.08 mSv
Individuals	366	259

Chest X-ray	Transatlantic Flight	CT scan	Average UK annual dose to public	EDF Energy Dose Restriction Level	UK legal dose limit for radiation workers
0.014mSv	0.08mSv	2.0mSv	2.6mSv	10mSv	20mSv

Explanatory notes:

- mSv: milliSieverts (SI unit of dose received by an individual)
- man.mSv: The collective dose for a group of workers (i.e. the total of the doses received by each member of a group).

Environmental Safety

There have been no significant environmental events in the period.

In April, site made a report to SEPA related to a leak of a non-radiological water treatment agent near the jetty due to a faulty pipe coupling. The site uses Sodium Hypochlorite, which is the same chemical compound as household bleach, to prevent marine fouling in the cooling water system. The release took place over a period of less than 10 hours onto a hard to access area of the shore. Upon discovery the dosing was put on hold, the area thoroughly dosed with townswater and the pipework subsequently replaced. No harm has been observed to the environment given the small quantities involved, the area affected, and the action taken to flush the substance from the shore area.

Radioactive gaseous and aqueous discharges arising from normal plant operations remain at levels well below those authorised by SEPA.

Although there has been a decrease in work activities due to the pandemic working arrangements, work to process and package solid low level wastes has continued in the period as part of normal operations, but no consignments have been made to our regular partners this quarter.

The programme of off-site environmental monitoring and radiation surveys in the district has continued throughout the period and demonstrates that the radiological discharges from the station have a negligible impact on the local environment. Reports are made monthly and quarterly to SEPA, detailing the samples and results of analysis performed.

Emergency Arrangements

As part of our Covid-19 pandemic response we have temporarily suspended emergency scheme training and exercises. These activities involve bringing people together on site so the decision has been taken to protect staff. This is being continually reviewed in conjunction with the ONR and when appropriate we will re-commence with the correct control measures in place.

To date the counter terrorism and peer assessed exercises have been postponed and we are keeping the arrangements under review for the Level 1 exercise, which is due to take place in June. EDF will continue to discuss and agree all arrangements with the ONR as the current situation evolves.

EDF is continuing to support work to ensure timely compliance with Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2019. EDF has, as required, provided technical advice on the minimum distance necessary for the site's Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) to allow the local authority to make a decision on the appropriate area. There is no change to the risk profile at any nuclear site across the UK with the assessment based on continuous improvement and enhancements to the robust arrangements that are already in place.

5. Generation

During the reporting period, Reactor 3/Turbine Generator 7 and Reactor 4/Turbine Generator 8 remained off-line while the company works with the regulator to ensure that the safety case reflects the findings of inspections and includes the results obtained from other analysis and modelling.

6. Station Update

Frontline workers benefit from Hunterston B PPE donation

Hunterston B has made a further donation of personal protective equipment (PPE) to organisations in Ayrshire.

Almost 1000 facemasks have been distributed between Ayrshire Cancer Support, the Ayrshire Hospice and district nurse teams in Largs and Troon.

Workers and volunteers with these organisations are in contact with some of the most vulnerable people in the community so the donation will help to ensure that those supporting the organisations and their patients are protected during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Station Director, Paul Forrest, said: "We have been able to release some of our stock of PPE for use in the community as part of our efforts to support the local Covid-19 response.

"The people working and volunteering for these organisation do an important job and I'm pleased to have been able to give them some support at this time."

Nicola George from Ayrshire Cancer Support, said: "The donation of masks to Ayrshire Cancer Support has been invaluable, particularly as we haven't been able to source any ourselves. They are being used by our volunteer drivers who take immunosuppressed patients to hospital for their cancer treatment. By our drivers wearing masks, it significantly reduces the risk of infection

being passed to these extremely vulnerable individuals. We can't thank you enough EDF for helping to protect the most vulnerable in our community."

Hunterston has previously given 1000 masks to CrossReach, which runs care homes for the Church of Scotland.

This is just one of the steps EDF is taking across the UK to support local communities during the pandemic. You can read about some of the other initiatives [here](#).

7. Company Update

EDF partners with Boots to deliver essential medicine to most vulnerable

EDF has partnered with Boots UK to help local communities during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, delivering essential prescription medicines to vulnerable patients and to those households in self-isolation.

Around seventy of EDF's smart and technical field engineers have volunteered to support the Boots Pharmacy Delivery and Collection (PDC) scheme, collecting essential supplies from Boots hubs across the country, so that those who are self-isolating or cannot get to their local pharmacy can have the medicines they need delivered to their door.

The EDF engineers have been matched to suitable locations to minimise the distance they need to travel and time spent outdoors. All volunteers will be provided with the training and kit necessary to ensure the safe delivery of essential medicines to customers, as well as a secure working environment for EDF's engineers.

The move comes as EDF employees across the country offer their services to the national effort against Covid-19, with many of the firm's smart metering and technical field engineers volunteering to support local community initiatives.

Philippe Commaret, Managing Director for Customers at EDF, said: "As we all adapt to a new way of living, we want to do everything possible to help support the most vulnerable in society during this worrying time. By partnering with Boots, we hope we can play our part in ensuring those in isolation can access the vital medical supplies they need.

"We're incredibly proud of the resilience and commitment shown by our whole team during this unprecedented time - from our dedicated engineers who have volunteered to take part in this programme, to those working tirelessly to keep energy running across the country."

Eddie Storr, Head of Supply Chain Pharmacy at Boots UK, said: "These are challenging times and our top priority is to ensure we continue to provide patients across the UK with the important medical supplies they need. We are incredibly grateful to receive this support from EDF and I would personally like to thank their volunteers, and all our incredible colleagues at Boots, who are stepping forward onto the front line to ensure the safe and secure delivery of prescriptions to the most vulnerable."

Nick Gould, smart engineer at EDF, said: "It's great to have the chance to do something to help the community and those who are reliant on these medicines but unable to collect them. If I can help people get the medicines they need, that is one less thing for them to worry about."

For more information about anything in this report or other station issues, contact:

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